GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:434
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006
PROCUREMENT CENTRES
Panda Shri Prabodh;Renge Patil Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of procurement centres of Food Corporation of India presently operating in the country, State-wise, particularly in West Bengal;

(b) whether most of these procurement centres have remained non-operational and are not purchasing grains from the farmers;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that such procurement centres are opened near the production areas alongwith the progress made therein?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 434 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 15.05.2006 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): The number of procurement centres of Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Agencies presently operating in the country, State-wise, including in West Bengal is given in Annexure.

(b): No, Sir.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): FCI generally opens procurement centres near production areas keeping in view the convenience of farmers in consultation with local State Governments for purchase of foodgrains of fair average quality at the Minimum Support Price.